

# Health News Release

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## State disciplines health care providers

**OLYMPIA** — The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Division works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 70 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency website. Click on "Provider Credential Search" on the left hand side of the <u>Department of Health home page</u> (www.doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are also encouraged to call and report their complaint.

#### **Grays Harbor County**

In November 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program terminated the probation order against certified nursing assistant **Emily A. Leach** (NC10095587).

#### **Island County**

In November 2011 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Diana Deering** (RN00161768) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly miscalculated dosage of a hydromorphone pump, increased the dosage amount to what she calculated as correct without contacting a patient's physician or pharmacy, and failed to report a change in symptoms to the patient's physician.

# **King County**

In November 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program released registered nursing assistant **Jacolynn C. Fairfield** (NA60174612) from terms and conditions set against her registration.

In October 2011 the Health Care Assistant Program denied the application of **Randall Jay Kincheloe** (HC60175025). The Washington State Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission

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placed restrictions on his license to practice as a licensed practical nurse and he failed to disclose the prior disciplinary action on his application.

In November 2011 the Respiratory Care Practitioner Program charged **Jodie L. Kuberski** (LR00004046) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly attempted to resuscitate a patient with a tracheostomy tube with a resuscitator bag and mask through the patient's mouth rather than through his tracheostomy tube.

In November 2011 the Massage Program charged **Amenia Renfro-Madregan** (MA00025325) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly provided or offered to provide massage therapy to patients while her Washington license was expired.

In November 2011 the Medical Commission reinstated the license of physician **Marco A. Sobrino** (MD00039788) and placed his license on probation. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his license.

In October 2011 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program denied the application of chemical dependency professional trainee applicant **Nichol Ann Vandehaar** (CO60247583). She was convicted of felony assault, misdemeanor assault, and minor in possession of alcohol.

## **Lewis County**

In November 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program terminated the probation order against registered nursing assistant **Kayley Marie Arlt** (NA60170549).

### **Okanogan County**

In November 2011 the Secretary of Health charged physical therapist **Justin L. Schober** (PT00008835) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly entered into an inappropriate relationship with a patient.

In November 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Lehnard C. Sequoiyah** (NC10070459) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly made sexually inappropriate comments and gestures toward patients. He was convicted of assault with sexual motivation in 2011.

## **Pierce County**

In November 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program denied the application of registered nursing assistant applicant **Kendrick Ramon Bolar** (NA60211793). He was convicted of criminal trespass and robbery. He failed to appear at a scheduled prehearing conference.

In November 2011 the Medical Commission charged physician **Alfred H. Chan** (MD00019718) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly failed to respond to commission requests for a written statement regarding an investigation. He was charged criminally with 20 counts of health care fraud, two counts of false statement, one count of obstruction of justice, and one count of money laundering.

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In November 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program terminated the probation order against certified nursing assistant **Patricia Jane Downs** (NC10046825).

In November 2011 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program terminated the probation order against chemical dependency professional trainee **Jack Allen Wesson** (CO60173883).

## **Spokane County**

In October 2011 the Nursing Commission entered into an agreed order with registered nurse **Julie A. Bliss** (RN00152477). Bliss tested positive for opiates in a drug screen. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

In November 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Denia Correa** (NC10046540) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly failed to keep an accurate medication log for a patient and tried to replace missing pills with pills that were not identical to the missing medication.

In November 2011 the Denturist Program placed the license of **Russell A. Hill** (DE00000390) on probation for three years. He allowed an unlicensed assistant to take impressions, measure bite and conduct try-ins for a patient. He discarded the patient's records, models, and incomplete dentures when the department began investigating the complaint. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his license.

In November 2011 the Dental Commission terminated the probation order against dental assistant **Amber Christine Malek** (D160032294).

In November 20114 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program terminated the probation order against chemical dependency professional trainee **Tonya N. Mortimer** (CO60149054).

In April 2011 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program denied the application of chemical dependency professional trainee applicant **Andrew Alfred Riddle** (CO60209849). He was convicted of possess with intent to distribute about 118 pounds, gross weight, of marijuana, and six counts of obtaining controlled substance through fraud.

In November 2011 the Medical Commission charged physician **John E. Sonneland** (MD00004987) with allegedly being unable to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety.

# **Thurston County**

In November 2011 the Board of Pharmacy charged pharmacist and pharmacist preceptor **Paul Scott McCarty** (PH00069734, PH60037977) with unprofessional conduct. He was charged with unlawful possession of a controlled substance — hydrocodone and unlawfully obtaining a controlled substance. He allegedly injected a patient with vitamin B12 on 10 occasions without a collaborative practice agreement authorizing him to do so. He's also charged with administering a clozapine program without maintaining the necessary registry and blood work results, and

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diversion of controlled substances by forging prescriptions and filling them under different patient names.

#### **Out of State**

**Oregon:** In November 2011 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program terminated the probation order against chemical dependency professional **Robert B. Collins** (CP00004146).

**Oregon:** In November 2011 the Medical Commission charged physician **Jeffrey S. Pierson** (MD00041338) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly entered into a sexual relationship with a patient, continued to write prescriptions for the patient, failed to maintain a medical chart, and conspired with the patient to steal government funds by submitting fraudulent applications to government entities. He was criminally convicted of conspiracy to defraud the United States, and the Oregon Medical Board issued disciplinary action against his license to practice as a physician in Oregon.

**Oregon:** In November 2011, after a hearing, the Veterinary Board of Governors granted the application of veterinarian **Thomas Kenneth Carl Welch III** (VT60227707) and placed conditions against his license with which he must comply. He provided veterinary services to at least 14 different equine patients without a valid Washington credential.

**Note to Editors:** Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

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The <u>Department of Health website</u> (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, find us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.